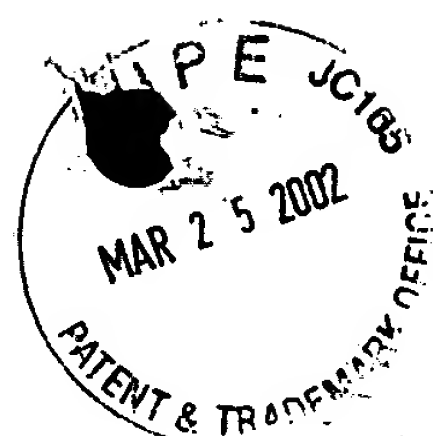


03560.002932



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

AKIRA KURIYAMA ET AL.

Appln. No.: 09/986,251

Filed: November 8, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR)
DECOMPOSING POLLUTANT

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: 1741

March 22, 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0004] with the following paragraph. A marked-up copy of the original paragraph [0004], showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

[0004] In addition to the above techniques, photodecomposition techniques of applying ultraviolet rays in a gaseous phase to the target pollutant without using an oxidizing agent have been proposed. Such techniques include, for example, a method in which an exhaust gas containing an organohalogen compound is irradiated with ultraviolet rays to form an acidic decomposed gas, and the acidic decomposed gas is washed with an alkali and thereby becomes

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